

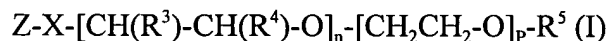
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A process for degreasing ~~or cleaning~~ a hard metal surface, comprising the step of using an aqueous medium comprising at least one compound employed in a concentration of from 0.01 to 10 g/l, having the following formula (I):



wherein:

- Z represents ~~a bicyclo[a,b,c]heptenyl or bicyclo[a,b,c]heptyl group, wherein:~~

$$\del{a+b+c=5,}$$

$$\del{a=2, a=3, \text{ or } a=4,}$$

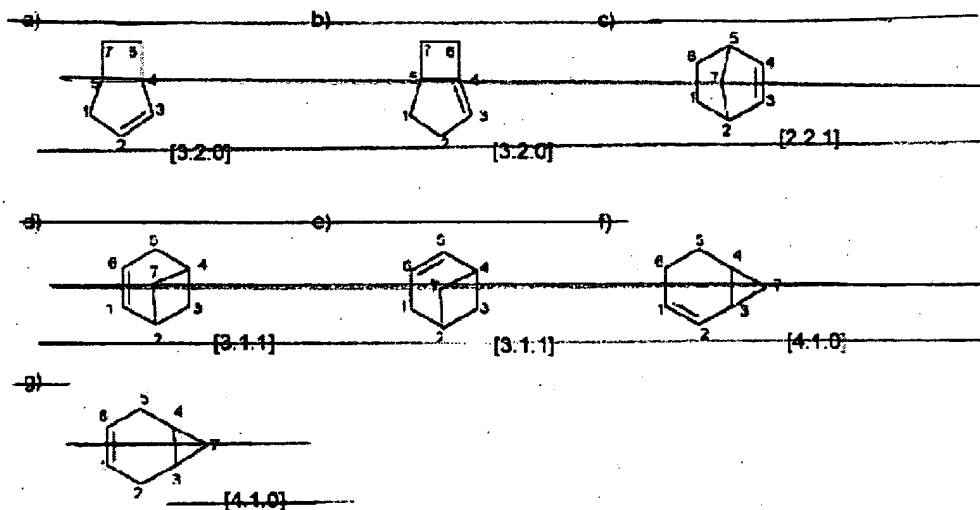
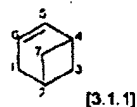
$$\del{b=2 \text{ or } b=1, \text{ and}}$$

$$\del{c=0 \text{ or } c=1,}$$

~~the bicyclo[a,b,c]heptenyl or bicyclo[a,b,c]heptyl group being optionally substituted by at least one C₄-C₆ alkyl group,~~

~~Z being selected from the group consisting of the groups of the following formulae a) to g), and the groups of the following formulae a) to g) minus the double bond:~~

a group having the following formula:



Wherein:

- X represents ~~$\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}$~~ $\text{CH}_2\text{-C(R}^1\text{)(R}^2\text{)-O}$ or $\text{O-CH(R}^{1'}\text{)-CH(R}^{2'}\text{)-O-}$,

wherein: ~~R^1 , R^2 , $\text{R}^{1'}$ and $\text{R}^{2'}$~~ , which are identical or different, represent hydrogen, or a linear, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{22}$ hydrocarbon group,

- R^3 and R^4 , which are identical or different, represent hydrogen or a methyl linear, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{22}$ hydrocarbon group, provided that at least one of groups R^3 or R^4 is other than hydrogen,

- R^5 represents hydrogen, a linear, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated, aromatic or non-aromatic $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{22}$ hydrocarbon group, which may be substituted, or a group selected from the group consisting of the following groups:



~~$(\text{CH}_2)_r\text{COOM}$, and~~

~~$(\text{CH}_2)_z\text{SO}_3\text{M}$,~~

~~wherein:~~

~~M represents hydrogen, an alkali metal or an ammonium function~~

~~$\text{N}(\text{R})_4^+$, wherein R, which is identical or different, represents hydrogen~~

~~or a linear, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{22}$~~

~~hydrocarbon group, optionally hydroxylated,~~

~~r is from 1 to 6, and~~

~~z is from 1 to 6;~~

- n is an integer or a fractional number from 3 to 5 inclusive, and

- p is an integer or a fractional number from 6 to 10, limits excluded.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein n is equal to 3.

18. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein p is from 6.2 to 7, limits included.

19. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 18, wherein p is from 6.3 to 7, limits included.

20. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein n is from 4 to 5.

21. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein p is from 7 inclusive to 10 exclusive.

RN99101

Serial Number: 10/049,575

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

22. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein p is from 8 inclusive to 10 exclusive.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26-28 (Canceled).

29. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein the hard surface is a metal plate, and the concentration of compound is from 0.01 to 5 g/l.

30. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, the hard surface is a platform, and the concentration of compound is in the range from 0.01 to 10 g/l.

31. (Canceled)